

1                                   **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 61**

2           (By Senators Laird, Fanning, Beach, Boley, Edgell, D. Facemire,  
3                   K. Facemyer, Green, Helmick, Williams and Wills)

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5                   [Originating in the Committee on Natural Resources]

6  
7    Requesting the Joint Committee on Government and Finance study  
8           methods for assessing the state's narrative water quality  
9           standards by utilizing the West Virginia Water Research  
10          Institute.

11          Whereas, The West Virginia Legislature previously enacted  
12    Chapter 22 Article 11 of the 1931 Code of West Virginia as amended,  
13    the West Virginia Water Pollution Control Act, and in that  
14    enactment declared it to be "the public policy of the State of West  
15    Virginia to maintain reasonable standards of purity and quality of  
16    the water of the state consistent with (1) public health and  
17    enjoyment thereof; (2) the propagation and protection of animal,  
18    bird, fish, aquatic and plant life; and (3) the expansion of  
19    employment opportunities, maintenance and expansion of agriculture  
20    and the provision of a permanent foundation for healthy industrial  
21    development."; and

22          Whereas, Such standards have been promulgated by the West  
23    Virginia Department of Environmental Protection and the Legislature

1 and submitted to and approved by the United States Environmental  
2 Protection Agency pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act; and

3 Whereas, These environmental protections and permitting  
4 measures include narrative water quality standards codified at 47  
5 CSR 2-3; and

6 Whereas, The West Virginia Water Research Institute is  
7 dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the natural  
8 environment through research and outreach with industry, government  
9 agencies, academia, and the public; and

10 Whereas, The Institute has been in existence since 1967 and is  
11 the premier water research center in West Virginia and an  
12 international leader. West Virginia Water Research Institute is a  
13 program within the National Research Center for Coal & Energy  
14 located at West Virginia University; and

15 Whereas, The Legislature desires the West Virginia Water  
16 Research Institute to develop a method to assess the state's  
17 narrative water quality standards and determine whether or not  
18 streams meet the Clean Water Act's designated use requirements;  
19 therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

21 That the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is hereby  
22 requested to study methods for assessing the state's narrative  
23 water quality standards by utilizing the West Virginia Water  
24 Research Institute; and, be it

1           *Further Resolved*, That the Joint Committee on Government and  
2 Finance report to the regular session of the Legislature, 2012, on  
3 its findings, conclusions and recommendations; and, be it

4           *Further Resolved*, That the expenses necessary to conduct this  
5 study, to prepare a report and to draft necessary legislation be  
6 paid from legislative appropriations to the Joint Committee on  
7 Government and Finance.